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JAPAN.

Reports from Yokohama—Inspection of vessels—Plague in Kobe and Osaka—Proposed legislation in regard to leprosy.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Moore reports, November 25 and December 2, as follows:

During the week ended November 18, 1905, bills of health were issued after inspection to 7 steamships having an aggregate personnel of 367 crew and 233 passengers; 65 steerage passengers were bathed and their clothing was disinfected; 75 aliens, would-be steerage passengers to the United States and its possessions, were examined with special reference to their freedom from any loathsome or dangerous contagious disease barred by the United States immigration laws.

Plague.—The plague situation in Kobe and Osaka shows no evidence of marked amelioration and the present outbreak bids fair to prove one of the most formidable manifestations of this infection that has yet visited Japan, excluding Formosa. The American consul at Kobe has formally declared Kobe and Osaka to be infected ports. This office has reason to believe that several of the larger steamship companies plying between Kobe and the United States will decline for the present to sell steerage tickets from that port to the United States under existing circumstances.

Leprosy.—It is reported that at the approaching session of the Imperial Diet legislation will be proposed with a view to governmental control of leprosy in Japan.

During the week ended November 25, 1905, 3 steamships, having an aggregate personnel of 353 crew and 579 passengers, were inspected. Three hundred and six steerage passengers were bathed and their body clothing was disinfected. Five hundred and three aliens, would-be steerage passengers to the United States and its possessions, were examined with special reference to their freedom from any loathsome or dangerous contagious disease contemplated by the immigration laws of the United States.

Plague.—The present status of plague in Kobe and Osaka gives rise to grave apprehension.

Emigrants recommended for rejection.

Number of emigrants per steamship *Korea* recommended December 2, 1905, for rejection: For Honolulu, 30; for San Francisco, 3.

Per steamship *Kanagawa Maru*, December 5, 1905: For Seattle, 18.

Per steamship *Tremont*, December 7, 1905: For Tacoma, 10.